

Appl. No. 10/701,950
Amdt. Dated 11/25/05
Reply to Office action of 08/24/05

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-18 are pending in the referenced application. Claims 17-18 are canceled in the present amendment.

Changes in response to the Examiner's Detailed Action are described in remarks hereinbelow.

Specification

1. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because it is longer than 150 words.

Applicant's word processor counts exactly 150 words in 12 lines of text, but that includes six hyphenated word combinations which the word processor counts as single words. MPEP 608.01(b) does not say how words are counted. For the sake of expediting the examination process, Applicant has amended the abstract to delete the final two sentences, thereby removing well over 6 words.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC 102

2. Claims 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 10, 11, 12, 13, 16 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Beesley (US Pat. No. 3,364,378).

Applicant respectfully submits that Beesley does not exhibit all of the elements cited in these claims, and is therefore not suitable as prior art in a 102 rejection.

Regarding independent claims 1 and 11, although Beesley discloses a light source (1) with an end (7) with a lead wire (5) extending therefrom, that is mounted in a lamp (8, 9) using support wires ("lead-in supports" 13-14, 16-18; and "auxiliary support or dummy lead" 28); his light source (1) *does not have an outward-opening cavity about the lead wire (5), does not extend the lead wire (5) through a cavity, and does not hook the support wire (18) into a cavity*. The definition of the terms "cavity" or "outward-opening cavity" is clearly stated in the detailed description on page 54, lines 27-29 with reference to Figure 14. As seen in the end view of Beesley's Fig. 5, there clearly isn't an outward-opening cavity of any kind about the lead wire (5).

Regarding claims 2 and 12, Applicant acknowledges that Beesley shows one instance of attaching (welding) the support wire (18, not 17) to the lead wire (5, not 21), wherein "the lead wire" refers back to "a lead wire extending therefrom" (from the light source end 7), but notes

Appl. No. 10/701,950
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BEST AVAILABLE COPY

that this applies to only one end of the light source. Nevertheless, dependent claims 2 and 12 are still valid given that they further limit a valid independent claim.

Regarding claims 3 and 13, these dependent claims should be valid given that they further limit a valid independent claim.

Regarding claim 6, Applicant respectfully submits that this claim is valid for the same reasons stated hereinabove with regard to claims 1 and 11.

Regarding claim 7, as noted hereinabove with regard to claims 2 and 12, Beesley shows *only one* instance of attaching (welding) the support wire (18, not 17) to the lead wire (5, not 21). In particular, the lead wire (5) on the right side of Beesley's Fig. 1 and 4 is connected to a fuse wire (21) which is specifically stated as **not** being the support (17+20 or 18+28) - see column 2, lines 46-53 which points out that this is the essence of the invention.

Regarding claims 10 and 16, Applicant acknowledges that Beesley shows one instance of mechanically and electrically attaching (welding) the support wire (18, not 17) to the lead wire (5, not 21), wherein "the lead wire" refers back to "a lead wire extending therefrom" (from the light source end 7), but notes that this applies to only one end of the light source. Beesley makes this clear in column 1, lines 49-56 wherein he states that "a physical support means *provides mechanical support* to this end of the lamp *independently* of the lamp lead wire. The lead wire *at the opposite end* is preferably secured by means to provide *both* physical support and electrical connection" (italics added). Nevertheless, dependent claims 10 and 16 are still valid given that they further limit a valid independent claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC 103

3. Claims 4, 8, and 14 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Beesley (US Pat. No. 3,364,378).

Regarding claims 4 and 14, Applicant respectfully submits that while the benefits of placing a lead wire in tension may be obvious, it is not obvious how the support structure of Beesley can be adapted to place the lead wire (5) in tension. Furthermore, the method/apparatus claimed in these claims includes steps of/apparatus for hooking the support wire into the cavity (non-existent in Beesley) before "using the support wire to place the lead wire in tension between the light source end and the point of lead wire-to-support wire loop attachment".

With regard to dependent claim 8, it should still be valid given that it further limits a

Appl. No. 10/701,950
Amdt. Dated 11/25/05
Reply to Office action of 08/24/05

valid independent claim.

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4. Claims 5, and 15 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Beesley (US Pat. No. 3,364,378) and further in view of Thomas et al. (US Pat. No. 5,138,228).

Regarding claims 5 and 15, Applicant respectfully submits that neither Beesley nor Thomas exhibit all of the elements cited in these claims, and are therefore not sufficient as prior art in this 103 rejection. In particular, Beesley's support wire elbow (formed between 17 and 18 portions) is formed for a different purpose and could not hook into an end (7) of the light source (1) even if a cavity were provided therein such as the outward opening cavities (illustrated but not numbered) in Thomas. It may be noted that Beesley's dummy lead (29) may be said to hook into the end of the light source, but it is embedded in the glass so it cannot be said to hook into a cavity. Furthermore, the dummy lead (29) is not an elbow formed in the support wire (18), rather -as the term indicates - it is a "*dummy lead*" that is part of the light source due to being embedded in the glass. It may be noted that Thomas' chamber (16) is also called a "cavity" and it has a flared end portion (20) - see column 3, lines 17-29 - but this cavity is inside the light source, not opening outward as cited in Applicant's claims. Also unlike the claimed invention, the outward-opening cavity shown in Thomas is not a cavity with a "bugled end" as cited in claims 5 and 15. The term "bugled end" is used throughout the specification and drawings and is first defined with reference to Figure 2D on page 18, lines 17-18: "Each bugled end 16 comprises an end for the tubing 10 that is flared out diametrically and has a rotationally symmetric profile similar to that of the bell of a bugle."

5. Claim 9 is rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Beesley (US Pat. No. 3,364,378) and further in view of Gagnon et al. (US Pat. No. 4,480,296).

Regarding claim 9, Applicant respectfully submits that Gagnon does not teach how to arrange two *double ended light sources* (such as are defined in claims 1 and 6, from which 9 depends) in a crossed configuration. Instead, Gagnon concerns mounting two light sources that are merely coiled filaments, both contained in a single ended arc tube. Filaments are much lighter than double ended arc tubes, and cannot have the requisite cavities at both light source ends because there is no envelope in which to form cavities around the lead wires. Furthermore, Beesley is insufficient for the reasons stated hereinabove with respect to claims 1 and 11. In

Appl. No. 10/701,950
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particular, neither Beesley nor Gagnon teach a cavity around the lead wire at the end of the light source.

6. Claims 17 and 18 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Katougi et al. (US Pat. No. 6,153,972) and further in view of Gagnon et al. (US Pat. No. 4,480,296).

Claims 17 and 18 are canceled.

Conclusion

Favorable re-examination and consideration are respectfully requested. If there are still some issues to be resolved, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION BY FACSIMILE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (Fax No. 571-273-8300) on November 25, 2005.

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Date of Person signing : November 25, 2005